

Figure 11 shows that the North Carolina pharmacist workforce is predominately white (88.3%). Currently, only about 12% of North Carolina pharmacists are nonwhite, compared to 26% of North Carolina's total population. Although the makeup of the North Carolina pharmacist workforce does not match the racial and ethnic makeup of the general population, pharmacist diversity in North Carolina has shown improvement, with the proportion of nonwhite pharmacists growing from 3% of the workforce in 1980, to 6% in 2000, and 12% in 2008.

Workforce Practice Characteristics

In 2008, the majority of North Carolina pharmacists worked for a chain pharmacy, (37.7%), hospital (24.1%) or independent pharmacy (16.1%) (**Figure 12**). While retail chains have grown rapidly over the last few decades, the distribution of pharmacists by employment setting has remained relatively unchanged. From 1998 to 2008, there was a slight decrease (-0.7%) in the percentage of pharmacists working in retail pharmacies and a 2% increase in the number of pharmacists employed by hospitals. The number of pharmacists working for independent pharmacies has remained relatively consistent since 2000.

Figure 13 describes the form of employment, or type of position, that NC pharmacists hold. An overwhelming majority (59.2%) of the pharmacists in North Carolina report that they are staff pharmacists.

Figure 11. Racial Composition of Active Pharmacists, North Carolina, 2008

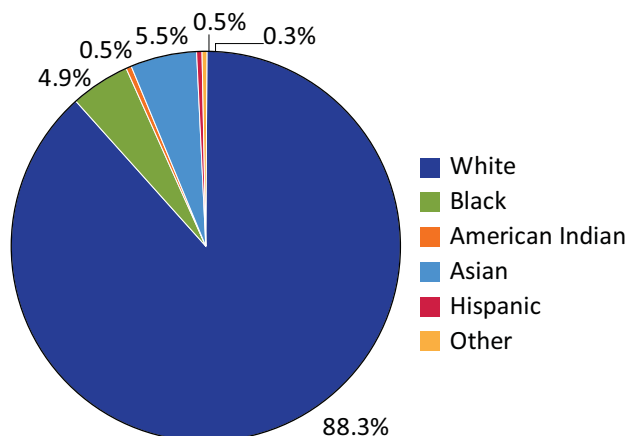
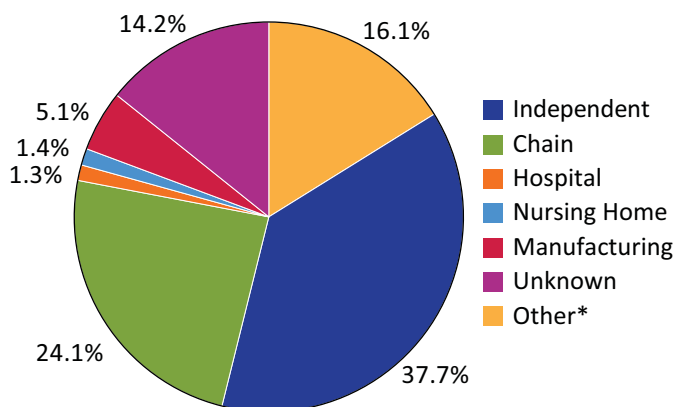
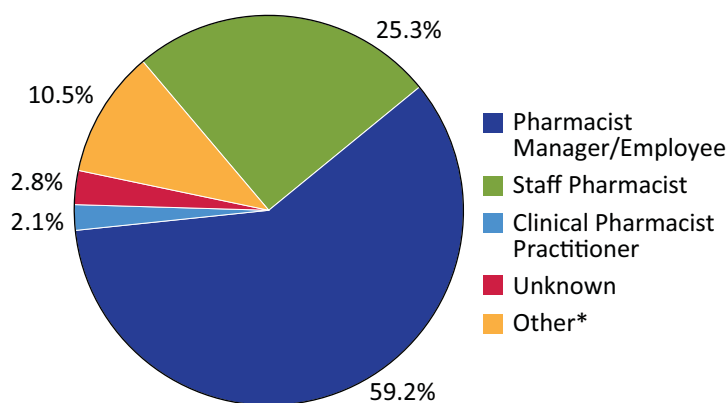


Figure 12. Employment Setting of Active Pharmacists, North Carolina, 2008



*Other includes government, wholesale, teaching, other, sales, research and health department.

Figure 13. Form of Employment of Active Pharmacists, North Carolina, 2008



*Other includes supervisor, unpaid worker, pharmaceutical sales, consultant, relief pharmacist, research, other (not specified), and long term care.

Note: Data include all active, instate pharmacists licensed in North Carolina as of October 31, 2008. **Source:** North Carolina Health Professions Data System, with data derived from the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy.